

**Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 25, 2013**

The Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee held a meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25, 2013 in the Bethany Beach Town Meeting Room, 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Members present: Carol Olmstead, who presided; Laren Hughes; Jan Kinsella; Theo Loppatto; and Margaret Young.

Absent Members: Claudia Dieste; Mary Lou McNerney; and Mary Lou Urquhart.

Also present: Lindsey Good, Administrative Secretary.

Call to Order

Ms. Olmstead called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from May 14, 2013 Meeting

After a couple of amendments, Ms. Loppatto made a motion to approve the minutes dated May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The motion was seconded by Ms. Young and unanimously approved.

Announcements

- The status on whether the Nebeker house is historical was discussed. Ms. Young feels that it is not historical because it has been renovated. Ms. Olmstead said that she will contact the owners to let them know that the Committee appreciates the information they provided on the change of ownership, but they will need to provide any changes that were made to the original structure.
- There may be a new member joining the Committee. Ms. Olmstead stated that would be great because the Committee is in need of additional members.

Smithsonian Exhibit Update

Ms. Olmstead reported that the Smithsonian Exhibit is over with, and it was overall a very nice event. It was a very interesting display and educational. Ms. Loppatto added that she was provided with the information that the Exhibit that they worked on had the best turnout out of all the exhibits in Delaware. Over five-hundred (500) people came to see the Exhibit.

Ms. Olmstead expressed her appreciation to Ms. Loppatto for doing a great job scheduling the docents for the exhibit.

Ms. Olmstead noted that at the June 13<sup>th</sup> program at the South Coastal Library, an edited film on the impact the Bay Bridge had on Southeast Sussex County was shown. Dr. Bob Parsons, Jane McCabe, and Maria Johansen of South Bethany also spoke at the event on their memories of the changes for the area after the building of the bridge.

Ms. Olmstead acknowledged that it was encouraging to have all the towns working together on this project.

#### Bethany Beach Museum Docent Schedule for Summer 2013

Ms. Kinsella and Ms. Urquhart are responsible for creating the docent schedule for this year.

Ms. Olmstead advised that one issue that needs to be improved on is to gain the interest of additional volunteers to be docents. She added that it is beneficial that the Museum is open from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. five (5) days a week.

The issue of having docents volunteer during the weekend of the Fourth of July was discussed. Ms. Olmstead stated that she may be available to docent that weekend if no one else volunteers. Ms. Kinsella volunteered to docent on July 14<sup>th</sup> if there are no other volunteers and Ms. Olmstead can most likely on July 7<sup>th</sup> if no one else does.

The schedule for the Museum being opened is Monday –Friday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and on Sundays from noon until 3:00 p.m.

#### Review Bethany Beach Heritage Trail Input Regarding Additional Locations

Ms. Olmstead stated that Ms. Young and Ms. Hughes worked together to update the brochure on the Bethany Beach Heritage Trail. The Committee reviewed the brochure and offered suggestions for changes. Additional locations to add were also discussed.

Ms. Olmstead noted that the Committee had previously requested to install a historical marker on the Christian Church property by the house that was originally “The Clubhouse” and the request was declined. She will contact them again to make another request.

Ms. Olmstead thanked Ms. Young and Ms. Hughes for their work on updating the Bethany Beach Heritage Trail brochure.

#### Input Regarding Plans for July 27<sup>th</sup>, Periers Day

Ms. Hughes presented a demo of the performances that she has booked for the Periers’ Day celebration. There will be a Mime interacting with the public and performing breakdancing from 5:00 – 5:30 p.m. At 5:30 p.m., Mayor Tony McClenny will give an opening welcome speech followed by Diana Cowell giving a speech. A performance very similar to the “Cirque Du Soleil” will take place on the Bandstand at 5:45 p.m. and will be ending at 6:30 p.m. The Committee members were very happy with the plans that will be taking place.

Ms. Hughes distributed to the members an advertisement for the event that she created, and they expressed that she did a very good job. The advertisement will be published in local newspapers and posted at the five places around Town (Town Hall, PNC Bank, Bandstand, Post Office and South Coastal Library), and on the Town’s website.

The Committee discussed the following tasks that need to be done for Periers’ Day:

- Display in case in the Town Hall Lobby. It will be the same display as last year.

- Restaurants participating at the event by including French item menu items for that day: Ms. Olmstead will contact the restaurants by e-mail to see which ones are interested this year. Last year, Bethany Blues, Frog House and the Parkway Restaurant participated.
- Advertisement will be posted on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Olmstead will purchase a French Flag to display.
- Ms. Hughes is going to videotape the performance at the event and put it on a DVD to send to the Mayor of Periers'. She will also purchase an additional video camera.

#### Oral History Project Review

Ms. Hughes reported that she has four more interviews that need to be edited and photographs need to be added. She noted that if any Committee members have any pictures that they would like to be incorporated, to please submit them to her. Ms. Olmstead said that she went through all of the photos that are currently on the kiosk and created a list of ones that can be used.

Ms. Hughes mentioned that a few of the interviews are long, and she is editing them to video to fit on two (2) DVD's. She emphasized that she is not editing out any interesting stories regarding the Town. Once she is finished editing the footage, sounds, and incorporates all of the photographs, she will ask the Committee members to review the video before the final is completed.

#### Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Lindsey Good, Admin. Secretary